



**CITY OF BURLINGTON
BOARD OF HEALTH**

645 Pine Street, Ste. A | PO Box 849
Burlington, VT 05402-0849

PHONE: (802) 863-0442

FAX: (802) 652-4221

BOARD OF HEALTH

Caroline Tassey, APRN Interim Chair; Mary D. Hart, RN; Julie Hathaway, MD, PhD; Celia Bird, APRN, Ian McHale, MPH;

HEALTH OFFICER

William Ward, Director of Permitting & Inspections

**DRAFT MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF
BURLINGTON BOARD OF HEALTH**

Zoom Conference

Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 6:30 PM

Attending: *Caroline Tassey, William Ward, Celia Bird, Mary Hart, Ian McHale, Julie Hathaway, Celeste Crowley*

Absent:

Meeting called to order by Interim Chair Tassey at 6:33 PM

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION TAKEN
1. Approvals: a. Agenda b. Approval of July Minutes	a. April Agenda – Approve as written. b. March Minutes – Approve as written	Ian motioned, Celia 2 nd . Approved Mary motioned, Ian 2 nd . Approved
2. Public Forum	No members of the public were present.	
3. Racial Equity, Inclusion and Belonging. a. Discussion with Tyeastia Green, Director of the Department of REIB.	Tyeastia is the Director of Racial Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (REIB). She joined us to discuss Racism as a public health issue. Her primary focus as Director is to change the culture in Burlington to inclusion by bringing in community members and their ideas. The Board of Health would like to work together to identify the public health issues surrounding racial inequities; What are the negative effects due to racism, and what positive changes have or are occurring as we work to address racial disparities. Some of the disparities that the BOH has begun to discuss are; difficulty accessing	

	<p>doctors, mental and emotional health support, as well as having livable housing.</p> <p>How can BOH help contribute to the eradication of systemic racism in our community?</p> <p>Tyeastia suggested joining with the efforts of REIB, rather than working on it separately. No point recreating the wheel when we can combine resources and discussions already in progress with REIB.</p> <p>Marielle Matthews, Burlington Public Health Equity Manager, would be the point of contact for working with REIB, as well as, having data that would be helpful for BOH's public health concerns that are evident in the BIPOC community as a result of systemic racism.</p>	
<p>4. Pesticide Applications and Products</p> <p>a. Sullivan Trees Applications</p> <p>b. NLA product review</p>	<p>Sullivan Trees' applications were approved.</p> <p>The BOH previously asked the city arborist to review the product list from Naturalawns of America (NLA). It was his recommendation that only two of the NLA products be allowed for use in the buffer zone.</p> <p>The Board of Health voted to take the recommendation of the city arborist and only allow two NLA products to be applied in the buffer zone.</p> <p>Caroline will send a letter to NLA with the BOH's decision.</p>	<p>Ian motioned; Mary 2nd All in favor</p> <p>Ian motioned; Mary 2nd All in favor</p>
<p>5. Budget Items</p> <p>a. North Avenue News</p>	<p>The two-page Healthy Lawns article was submitted to the North Avenue News. The cost for the ad is \$1,200, to be paid from the BOH fiscal budget.</p>	<p>Mary motioned; Celia 2nd. All in favor.</p>
<p>6. Chair Report</p> <p>a. Marijuana Card</p> <p>b. Hepatitis A</p>	<p>No new information or updates for the Marijuana Card or Hepatitis A topics, at this time.</p> <p>Caroline informed the Board members that Ian has accepted a position in NYC and will be vacating his Board of Health position. The May BOH meeting will be his last with us.</p>	

	Bill will submit a letter to the City Council advising them of Ian's departure date.	
7. Eradicating Systemic Racism	There was no formal topic for this agenda item, but the agenda Item 3; Racial Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (REIB) is in direct relation to this topic.	
8. Emerging Issues	Ian and Celia drafted a letter that can be sent to organizations that request a donation from the Board of Health. The letter is to let the organization know that we need more information before granting a donation. Ian motioned to approve the letter with the addition of BOH phoning the requestors rather than emailing them. A personal discussion is preferred over an email.	Ian motioned; Celia 2 nd . All in favor.
9. Public Outreach / Communications a. Front Porch Forum b. Mask Handout Events	Front Porch Forum – Caroline will send post directing residents to the North Avenue News to read the Healthy Lawns article. Mask Handout Events – No events are planned. Ian handed out more masks and marijuana cards.	
10. Next Meeting	Thursday, May 13, at 6:30pm	Meet via Zoom
11. Adjournment	Meeting was adjourned at 8:44pm	Mary motioned, Celia 2 nd .